



The Parish of Moseley  
St Mary's & St Anne's



## Parish of Moseley - Second Sunday before Advent

### Our Services for the Second Sunday before Advent : 19th November

- 8.00am - Holy Communion at St Mary's (BCP)
- 10.00am -Intergenerational Service at St Mary's for Safeguarding Sunday
- 11.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's
- 6.30pm - Evensong at St Mary's

**Evensong** is a traditional service where some of the liturgy is sung. The service is from the Book of Common Prayer (1662) with psalms, canticles, hymns, prayers, readings and a reflection.

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### Readings for the Second Sunday before Advent

- Morning Readings - Zephaniah 1.7,12–18, 1 Thessalonians 5.1–11, Matthew 25.14–30
- Evening Readings - 1 Kings 1.15–40, Revelation 1.4–18

### Thought for the Day by Mick Perrier

The Bible lessons set for this Sunday make for sobering reading indeed.

In these days of war and suffering in the Holy land it is truly frightening to hear Zephaniah speak of God bringing war and destruction, days of wrath and anguish, of darkness and gloom consuming the whole earth and making a terrible end to all the inhabitants.

St. Paul, in his letter to the Thessalonians, begins in a similar vein, telling us that the Lord will come as a thief in the night with sudden destruction from which there is no escape. He, however, does bring a salutary note also, for we

are children of the day with the breastplate of faith and love and the helmet of the hope of salvation. We are destined not for wrath but for salvation through Jesus Christ.

The Gospel of Matthew which follows expounds the familiar parable of the talents, how those who make the most of their gifts are rewarded and those who bury theirs, leaving them unfulfilled, will be condemned.

To those suffering the daily destruction in Gaza and beyond, Zephaniah's words may seem to be coming to pass. However, in the midst of this, Matthew's exhortation to those who, according to St. Paul, live with faith, love and hope to maximise their efforts for the good of all humanity makes it incumbent on all people of goodwill to doubly strive for a just outcome through the example of Christ our Lord.

Wherever we are, we need to strive unflinchingly for just, humane solutions, for the relief of suffering and the end to war. We may not be able directly to influence events in the Middle East, but we can relieve the suffering of those escaping into our own communities by the warmth of our welcome, the acceptance of "the other", and our own efforts to build a better world where we live.

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## Future Services

### Sunday 26th November - Christ the King

- 8.00am - Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 8.30am - Breakfast Church at St Anne's
- 10.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Mary's
- 6.30pm - Service of Wholeness and Healing at St Mary's

Our service of **Wholeness and Healing** is a quiet service of readings, music, prayer and reflection, with a focus on wholeness and healing. You do not have to be unwell to come, and you will not need to share anything personal. There is an invitation to receive the laying on of hands with prayer; this may be for ourselves, for others, for a situation on our minds, or for the world. There is also the opportunity to be anointed with oil. Both are optional; you are simply invited to come as you are, bringing and sharing your burdens with God who knows us deeply.

### Sunday 3rd December - Advent Sunday

- 8.00am - Holy Communion at St Mary's (BCP)
- 10.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Mary's
- 11.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's
- 6.30pm - Service of Readings and Music for Advent

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## Our Regular Worship

- Details of our regular pattern of worship can be found on the Services page of our website [here](#).
  - Details of how the pattern relates to Children's Worship can be found on the Children and Youth page of our website [here](#).
  - Details of specific services can continue to be found in the [Calendar](#).
  - **Morning Prayer** is at 9.10am in the Lady Chapel at St Mary's on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and at 9.10am in St Anne's on Tuesday.
  - The Thursday **Midweek Communion** service is at 12.15pm in the Lady Chapel at St Mary's.
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## Notices

### Christmas Fair - Saturday 25th November 10.00-2.00

Only one week to go to the Christmas Fair! **A reminder that we desperately need help on the stalls and items for the following stalls**

- Toys
- Bottles
- Good quality fancy goods/bric a brac
- Cakes
- Chocolate

Items can be brought to church on Sunday morning, or on Thursday 23rd between 10am and 12 noon, or on Friday between 10.00am and 12 noon or between 2.00pm and 4.00 pm

If you are able to help in any way, even if only for a couple of hours please contact the office at [office@moseleychurch.org.uk](mailto:office@moseleychurch.org.uk) or 0121 449 2243. Or sign up on the sheet on the welcome desks.

This is our main fundraiser of the year. To make it a success we need a team effort!

### Bring a Bottle for the Bottle Stall !

Can you bring a bottle to church this Sunday for the bottle stall - that would be great!

### St Mary's Wins Bronze Eco Church Award

We are delighted to have received the Bronze Eco Church Award in recognition of our efforts to care for God's earth. We are now looking for volunteers to form a group to work towards the silver award. If you are interested please contact the office on [office@moseleychurch.org.uk](mailto:office@moseleychurch.org.uk).

### Christmas Tree Festival

We will be hosting a Christmas Tree Festival from 7th-10th December at St Mary's Church with a service of blessing on Thursday 7th at 6pm at St Mary's

Individuals, community groups and businesses are invited to submit a tree (any size up to 5ft). You can decorate the tree in an appropriate way but there isn't a theme so you can use the tree to advertise a business or group.

Please register your tree at [office@moseleychurch.org.uk](mailto:office@moseleychurch.org.uk) and bring your tree anytime between 10.00am-4.0pm on Wednesday 6th December at St Mary's Church. There is an optional £10 donation to church charities.

### Request from St Chad's Sanctuary

St Chad's Sanctuary are busy getting ready for Christmas and need lots of small gifts to give to their students and other asylum seekers who make use of their services. There are labelled boxes in St Mary's and St Anne's – please place donated items (such as hats, scarves, gloves, stationery sets and toiletry gift sets) into the boxes by the end of November. Thank you.

### Blue Christmas

On Saturday 9th December at 3.30pm we will be holding a short service of reflection called Blue Christmas for anyone who isn't finding the festive season easy. We are especially thinking of those who might be grieving for whatever reason, or those of us who find the winter time and longer nights difficult. Blue Christmas will be for about 30-40 minutes in the Lady Chapel at St Mary's and will be followed by a chance to chat and find quiet companionship

over hot drinks and homemade cake in the West Room. The service and space afterwards are open to everyone, regardless of faith. Please do feel welcome to come.

### **Eco Church - Christmas Cards this Year**

Our Parish is working towards a Bronze Award associated with the Eco-Church project which is a brilliant initiative to encourage our community to think around different areas where we could safeguard and celebrate our planet. One of the things we are interested in is the following:

To save paper we are encouraging members of our church to send ONE card to everyone in the church this year. You can still donate to a chosen charity if this is a way you give money. As we are holding a **Christmas Tree Festival in early December** we are encouraging everyone to find cards with trees on them or an environmental theme to them. We will have a board designated to your card so everyone can enjoy them.

### **Heating at St Mary's**

The heating at St Mary's is currently broken. The installation of a new boiler is due to start on Monday 20th November but please wrap up warmly in the meantime.

### **£130 for our Church**

Take out a home insurance policy with Ecclesiastical and they will donate £130 to our church. To find out more, please contact Ecclesiastical on 0800 7830 130 and quote TRUSTPST or go to [ecclesiastical.com/trust130](http://ecclesiastical.com/trust130).

### **Church Hall**

A significant water leak has been discovered under the parish hall. We are working hard to rectify this situation but the hall will remain closed until further notice.

### **Stewardship**

Our parish is facing significant financial challenges with a growing deficit which a small team are seeking to redress. However, **stewardship** (the giving of time, talents and financial means) is about us all. On Sunday 4th June we focussed on this in our Sunday services at both St Mary's and St Anne's. Information is available on the welcome desk.

You may also have noticed some notices with **QR codes around the buildings**. This can be an easy and quick way to donate to the church through 'the collection' when you come to church or are visiting. Please do make use of these on an occasional or more regular basis in our new 'cashless' society. Thank you so much - Magdalen.

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## **This week in the Parish**

### **We continue to pray for:**

Cathie Carey and family, Tony Sheppard, Mike Carter, Sylvia Gold, Jeanette Riddick, William George, Ruth Carter, Jon Terry, Rachel McLeod, Sheila Perks, Laurie Flood and Elisabeth Leicester.

**Souls of the Departed:** Revd Nick Ball.

### **The Parish also prays and gives thanks for:**

- Our Parish Safeguarding Team and the central diocese team who support them.

- Our Confirmation candidates as they prepare for their confirmation on 26th November.

**Church of England Birmingham Praying Together:** The current edition is [here](#).

**We celebrate the Birthdays of:** Kathleen Lodge, John Clarkin and Isaac Williams.

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